

LINK



The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR)

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A Note from the Executive Director

GLRPPR Survey Winners

GLRPPR did a survey a few months ago asking the members for input on the organization's Web site. Members were asked about the Web site's functionality, what you like, what you don't like, what changes could be made to make the site better, etc. Stay tuned to our Web page to see us incorporate your suggestions.

Those who took the survey were entered into a drawing. The winner of the top prize in the drawing was John Greenway from Ohio Department of Development in Columbus, Ohio. John received a \$25 Amazon.Com gift card. Runner-up prizes were also awarded to Ted Prescott from Illinois EPA, and Shamili Sandiford, Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at College of DuPage. The two runner-up prizewinners received a P2Rx canvas book bag and a collection of GLRPPR logo items including a luggage tag, letter opener, etc.

Congratulations and thank you to all who participated in the survey! It takes membership participation to make an

organization run and become better at what it does.

2005 GLRPPR Winter Meeting Recap

GLRPPR held its winter meeting on March 9 at McCormick Place in conjunction with the Envirotech Expo. I served on the planning committee for the expo technical sessions. In return for GLRPPR's assistance on the technical planning committee, the Expo afforded GLRPPR members the opportunity to attend the expo free of charge so that you could see the newest technologies available.

Topics covered in GLRPPR's half-day meeting included 'Sustainability Measurement in Paper Manufacturing' presented by Archie Beaton of the Chlorine Free Products Institute; 'Light Resin Transfer Molding Technology,' presented by Jim Noonan from the Indiana Clean Manufacturing Institute at Purdue University; 'Evaluation of Low Cost Chairside Amalgam Separation Systems,' presented by Dr. Mark Stone of the Naval Dental Research Institute; 'The Impact of Used Electronics on the Waste Stream and U.S. EPA's Electronic Waste Initiatives,' presented by Chris Newman and Lucy Stanfield of U.S. EPA Region 5; and 'GLNPO/GLRPPR Updates,' given by Debra Jacobson. Laura Rauwerda was scheduled to present 'The Green Suppliers Network' but was unable to attend the meeting, however her presentation is available on our Web page for review. For more details on all of the presentations visit the GLRPPR Web site at www.glrppr.org/meetings/chicago2005/.

National Environmental Partnership 2005 Summit

The National Environmental Partnership 2005 Summit, a merger of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable Spring Conference, the National Compliance Assistance Providers Forum, and the

Performance Track Participants Association annual meeting, was held April 11-14 at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the local planning committee and (GLRPPR members) for making the summit a great success! Special thanks goes to the people who graciously hosted tours, training, and social events in conjunction with the conference.

Local Planning Committee

Hugh Flack - Akzo Nobel Ink & Coatings Company
Phil Kaplan - U.S. EPA Region 5*
Mardi Klevs - U.S. EPA Region 5
Jackie Libricz - Chlorine Free Products Association
Becky Lockart - IL EPA*
Linda Mangrum - U.S. EPA Region 5
Mike Mitchell - IL Recycling Association
George Nassos - IIT Stuart School of Business
Brian Olsen - U.S. DOE
Anjana Phadnis - Abbot Laboratories
Rich Sustich - Water Campus, Univ. of IL
Dolly Tong - U.S. EPA Region 5
Tom Ustanik - Lansing Cleaners*

Tours, Training & Social Event Hosts

John Marlin - IL Waste Management & Research Center
George Nassos - IIT Stuart School of Business
Sanjay Patel - International Truck & Engine Corp.
Anjana Phadnis - Abbot Laboratories
Aaron Rosinski - SE Environmental Task Force
Dolly Tong - US EPA Region 5
Tom Ustanik - Lansing Cleaners
Elise Zelechowski - City of Chicago Dept. of Env.

* GLRPPR Steering Committee Member

GLRPPR Summer Conference

Mark your calendars and get your travel requests in for this year's 2005 Summer Conference! It will be held at the New York Science Academy in New York City on August 25-26, 2005. The steering committee is working to narrow down the wide array of topics submitted for consideration. Current conference details and information is posted on the GLRPPR web site. As more information becomes available, it will be promptly posted. I look forward to seeing all of you there!!

Debra Jacobson, GLRPPR Executive Director

Featured Articles

Alternative Fuel Use Pilot Program in Michigan State Parks and Harbors

Visitors to state parks and harbors will see "green" practices in Michigan's premier green spaces this summer. Various blends of biodiesel fuel will be used in mowers, tractors and backhoes to help reduce emissions

and improve air quality in 20 locations from Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park to Bald Mountain Recreation Area.

The pilot will monitor fuel use, equipment performance and cost-effectiveness in park and construction equipment.

Biodiesel fuel use is one of several environmentally friendly management strategies and practices being explored by the Parks and Recreation Division's Green Initiatives Committee, a partnership between the departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality.



Department of Natural Resources' Biodiesel Symposium - representatives from Michigan's state and federal park systems along with distributors and end users of biobased fuels and fluids - converge in Cheboygan Michigan to discuss the benefits and rollout of the Green Initiatives Biodiesel Pilot.

"We're very hopeful that this project will show our staff and our visitors that green products such as biodiesel can be used easily in our everyday operations," Project Coordinator Chris Cope said. "Biodiesels are a good fit with our mission to protect and preserve the natural resources of Michigan."

For more information about the Green Initiatives Committee, contact Colleen Steinman at 517-373-0399.

Biofuels in Ohio—Ready to Roll

The Central Ohio Clean Fuels Coalition (COCFC) is organizing a series of four conferences in 2005 for fuel retailers, fuel distributors, fleet decision-makers, and others interested. These events will provide fuel marketers with technical information needed to begin offering biofuels plus how to take advantage of new federal tax credits available. Fleets will learn more about operation and cost issues.

Wednesday, April 20: Raintree Conference Center, north of Canton, Ohio

Thursday, April 21: Liberty Center, Lancaster, Ohio

Tuesday, June 14: Der Dutchman, Waynesville, northeast of Cincinnati, Ohio

Wednesday, June 15: Simpson Building, Bowling Green, Ohio

Registration is \$25 for COCFC members and \$45 for non-members. Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities also are available. To register, contact Sam Spofforth at 614-292-5435 or sam@cocfc.org.

COCFC is a non-profit organization, formed in January 2002 and based at The Ohio State University Center for Automotive Research. Their mission is to increase the use of cleaner American fuels and vehicles and energy-saving transportation technologies (AFVTs) in order to improve air quality and health, reduce climate change, curb dependence on imported petroleum, and support Ohio's economy. Clean American fuels include biodiesel, natural gas, propane, ethanol, electricity, and hydrogen. In 2002, the U.S. Department of Energy designated COCFC as the "Clean Cities" coalition for Central Ohio. For more information, visit <http://www.cocfc.org/>.

Biodiesel in Indiana

Indiana has been working hard to promote the benefits of alternative fuels throughout its ninety-two counties. As one of the nation's leaders in soybean production, the use of alternative fuels such as biodiesel can offer both economic and environmental benefits to the state. Biodiesel is a domestically produced, renewable fuel that can be used in standard diesel engines with our existing fueling infrastructure. It is a safer, biodegradable fuel that has significantly lower emissions of harmful air pollutants such as particulates (soot), carbon monoxide, volatile organic carbons, and air toxics.

The State of Indiana is supporting the use of alternative fuels in vehicle fleets owned by businesses, non-profits, and local units of government by offering grants that assist with the purchase and use of alternative fuels such as biodiesel.

The greatest interest to date in biodiesel use has been from Indiana school corporations, who use B20 (a blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% diesel) for both its environmental benefits and for its health benefits. Recent air quality nonattainment designations (for both ozone and particulate matter) assigned by the Environmental Protection Agency mean that diesel-powered fleets such as schools will have to meet increasingly strict emissions standards. Unlike pure diesel, B20 has much lower emission of agents that contribute to poor air quality. In addition, B20 has a much more pleasant odor, which many claim is reminiscent of the smell of cooking french fries. Indiana school systems involved in the grant program include School City of Hammond, Lake Station Schools, School Town of Munster, Monroe County Schools, Zionsville Schools, and Westfield Washington Schools. The Lieutenant Governor's Office, which has oversight of energy policy, is working to aid more communities in the use of this beneficial fuel.

Some of the most important elements in the promotion of biodiesel have been the partnerships formed. The State has worked with the Indiana Soybean Board (ISB), one of the strongest proponents of biodiesel in the state, on a statewide education and outreach campaign. In 2003, ISB partnered with Countrymark Co-op to build the first metered biodiesel blending facility in the nation, located

in Jolietville, Indiana. The Jolietville facility was made possible in part by a \$30,000 state grant for the building of the facility. Two additional facilities were opened in Peru and Switz City, making biodiesel readily available in each of Indiana's ninety-two counties. The blending facilities allow quick, efficient blending of pure soy biodiesel (B100) into transport loads of diesel fuel to meet each customer's specific blending request.

In addition to increasing the state's biodiesel blending and distributing capacity, Indiana is now working to add biodiesel production to its list of accomplishments. The Indiana House of Representatives recently passed Senate Bill 378, which will offer significant tax credits to producers of biodiesel. The bill will also extend tax credits to both biodiesel blenders and retailers using biodiesel produced in Indiana. The State has also committed to use biodiesel in State vehicles where possible.

Selected Alternative Fuels Resources

Laura L. Barnes, GLRPPR Help Desk Librarian, has compiled an extensive list of books, reports, journals, newsletters, Web sites, professional and trade associations, and journal articles on alternative fuels. [Click here to view this list.](#)

Items of Interest

What is WBEAP?

The Wisconsin Business Environmental Assistance Partnership (WBEAP) provides help to Wisconsin business and communities in understanding environmental regulations, preventing pollution, and establishing continuous improvement through environmental management systems, partnerships, and other collaborative activities. WBEAP is a working partnership between the Departments of Commerce (Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program), Natural Resources (Cooperative Environmental Assistance Program), Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (Agrichemical Program), and the University of Wisconsin-Extension (Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center).

WBEAP has a wealth of expertise in environmental issues that is freely available to any company, business, local government unit, organization, or persons in the following environmental areas:

- Air pollution regulations and requirements
- Environmental Innovation such as Green Tier or other cooperative programs
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Information and assistance
- Fertilizer & Pesticide Management

- Industrial & Community Recycling
- Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation
- Storm water control plans and best management practices
- Waste minimization and pollution prevention
- Waste water discharges

Through a collaborated effort, WBEAP showcases a wide variety of resources and tools at the Wisconsin Pollution Prevention Partnership Web site: <http://wip2.uwex.edu/>. Just click on the contacts tab and you can reach any of the Partnership Staff listed there.

Coming Soon...Summer 2005 Edition

The Summer 2005 Edition of the LINK newsletter will focus on Sustainable Recreation. The LINK Summer 2005 article solicitation will be sent to GLRPPR members via e-mail on or about June 1, 2005; articles will be due June 31. Send article ideas, pics, or questions to Wayne Duke at wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

IL Governor's P2 Award—Applications Being Accepted!

Are you proud of the Pollution Prevention activities of your company or organization? Would you like those efforts to receive the recognition they deserve? The opportunity for that to happen is here.

The Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) is accepting applications for the 2005 Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards. Applications must be postmarked or submitted electronically by May 20, 2005 for consideration.

For 19 years, WMRC has presented the Governor's Awards to companies and organizations in Illinois that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental excellence through the practice of pollution prevention. Any Illinois public or private organization is eligible to apply for an award. Continuous Improvement Awards also are awarded to companies that have shown an ongoing commitment to pollution prevention. Eligible applicants will be evaluated in one of the following categories:

- Small, Medium or Large Business/Industrial Facility
- Vendor/Supplier
- Community Group
- Trade Organization/Association
- Educational Institution
- Service Organization (such as medical, military, government, etc.)

Information about the Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards and an application are available on the Web site: www.wmrc.uiuc.edu. Click on "Illinois Governor's

Pollution Prevention Awards" in the Special Projects section of the WMRC home page. Or contact Bob Iverson, Information Services Manager, at 217-333-8946 or biverson@wmrc.uiuc.edu to receive an application in the mail.

Technical experts from WMRC will review applications and site visits may be performed. The Governor's office makes the final award decisions. Winners will be announced at the Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards on Thursday, October 20, 2005 at the Abbington in Glen Ellyn.

The Waste Management and Research Center is a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. WMRC's mission is to conserve natural resources, reduce wastes, and increase economic vitality by providing Illinois businesses, institutions, and citizens with information, research, innovative technologies, and technical assistance.

Powder Coating MDF

Medium-density fiberboard (MDF) is a perfect wood substrate for powder coating. It's coated with pigmented paint, has consistent moisture content and can take the (curing) heat. Painted office furniture, store fixtures, tables, vending machines and kitchen cabinets can all be made of powder coated MDF.

Like powder coating on metal, powder coating on MDF has environmental advantages over traditional solvent-borne coating.

- Negligible volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- Air from the coating booth and ovens can be exhausted into the plant, reducing the need for makeup air, which cuts energy demand.
- Overspray can be reused—up to 98% depending on color changeouts.

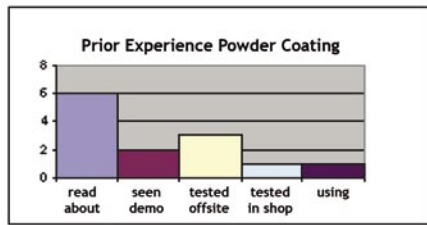
Infrared (IR) radiation heats the board to draw moisture to the surface, making it conductive. Curing follows coating. Unlike liquid coated parts, powder coated MDF parts are ready for packaging right off the production line. No additional cure time is needed.

As part of a joint project with the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center and the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center to pilot technology diffusion for various technologies, the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) sponsored a technology seminar on medium-density fiberboard.

Demonstrations of powder coating on MDF components were held at a powder coating job shop, along with demonstrations of conventional and IR preheat and curing systems. Coating and equipment vendors discussed selecting the right powder, successfully applying the finish and options for curing powder coatings on wood.

The manager of Brainerd Technical Design presented his experience starting a conveyorized powder coating line and its impact on productivity and emissions. Describing his satisfaction with the new system Mike Welch stated, "The first 19 of 20 parts ran through the system ended up in production. The 20th was kept as a sample."

The seminar attendees represented cabinet, fixture, furniture and millwork from nine companies. The majority of the attendees had previous knowledge of powder coating on MDF (see table). One company was powder coating on metal and wanted to explore its application on wood. Most of them were looking for ways to justify the capital expense of new equipment.



Paul Pagel, MnTAP, taking a temperature reading using a noncontact IR thermometer.

Paul Pagel, MnTAP coating specialist, is following up with the attendees and others; encouraging them to pilot test powder coating their own MDF parts in order to promote the adoption of this technology.

Powder coating on MDF—along with ultra violet curing (UV) and waterborne coating—were identified by a focus group as leading, pollution preventing technologies for wood finishing. MnTAP will promote all three of these technologies over the next two years. MnTAP is currently planning wood finishing technology showcases for UV and waterborne coatings.

For more information on powder coating MDF, visit <http://www.mntap.umn.edu/paint/mdf.htm>.

Celebrate Earth Day!

By Laura L. Barnes, GLRPPR Help Desk Librarian

INTRODUCTION

The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, the same year that President Richard Nixon signed the legislation that created the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Its founder, Senator Gaylord Nelson, envisioned it as a grassroots celebration that would raise awareness of environmental issues. In celebration of the 35th anniversary of this historic event, visit the following sites to learn more about it and get ideas for making Earth Day every day.

HISTORY

All About Earth Day

<http://earthday.wilderness.org/history/>

The origins of Earth Day as told by Senator Gaylord Nelson

EPA's Environmental Progress

<http://www.epa.gov/earthday/history.htm>

A nice timeline of the significant progress made during the agency's life. See also The Guardian: Origins of EPA at <http://www.epa.gov/history/publications/origins.htm>. Other publications about EPA's history are available at <http://www.epa.gov/history/publications/index.htm>.

PORTAL SITES

Earth Day Network

<http://www.earthday.net/default.aspx>

Founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day in 1970, Earth Day Network (EDN) promotes environmental citizenship and year round progressive action worldwide. The site includes a searchable database of Earth Day events for both the U.S. and other countries. There are also links to downloadable materials for Earth Day 2005, including an Earth Day Organizer's Guide.

Earth Day U.S. Government Portal

<http://www.earthday.gov/>

The portal for U.S. government Earth Day events and information. Site includes links to Earth Day events via the Earth Day Network, links to government web sites, and tips for taking action at home, at work, and in the classroom. It also includes a link to U.S. EPA's history of Earth Day.

Earth Day Canada

<http://www.earthday.ca/EDy2k/Home/homefrm1.html>

This site offers a Canadian perspective, including events and educational materials.

ACTIVITIES

Earth Day Activity Ideas

http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/environmental/earthday_events.cfm

If you're trying to teach the young people in your life the importance of protecting the planet, this Earth Day Canada website can help. It lists ideas for getting kids involved in Earth Day, like challenging family members to help reduce greenhouse gases or holding a contest to see who can create less litter at lunch.

Earth Day Ecological Footprint Quiz

<http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp>

This Ecological Footprint Quiz estimates how much productive land and water you need to support what you use and what you discard. After answering 15 questions

you'll be able to compare your Ecological Footprint to what other people use and to what is available on this planet.

Earth Dinner

<http://www.earthdinner.org/>

On April 22, start a new Earth Day tradition: "Invite Mother Earth to dinner." This website suggests gathering your friends and family to celebrate the environment over a meal of organic, sustainable foods. You'll find tips on planning the menu and shopping locally, and even a list of "table topics" to help you focus the conversation on the environment.

Greening Our Schools Earth Day Activities

<http://www.greeningschools.org/docs/earthdayeeactivities.pdf>

This fact sheet provides elementary teachers with a year's worth of lessons that support the mission of Earth Day.

MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY

Earth 911

<http://www.earth911.org/master.asp>

The site's slogan is "Making Every Day Earth Day!" It has links to local services and events as well as more general information.

Earth Action Center

<http://www.nrdc.org/action/tips.asp>

Tips from the Natural Resources Defense Council on making your lifestyle greener.

World in the Balance

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/worldbalance/>

Companion web site to the PBS "Nova" episode that aired on April 20, 2004. It addressed how environmental changes and a growing population is affecting the earth. The site includes related articles, photographs, interviews and activities.

Fine Print

LINK is a free quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable. For subscription information, please contact the editor or see our Web site at www.glrppr.org.

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